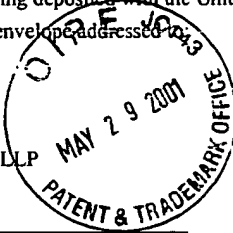


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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:

Kimberly Badiei



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 107-062010
Client Reference No.: 107-96.40

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

DONALD G. WALLACE et al.

Application No.: 09/553,969

Filed: April 21, 2000

For: FRAGMENTED POLYMERIC
COMPOSITIONS AND
METHODS FOR THEIR USE

Examiner: WARE, T.

Art Unit: 1615

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 1, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 1 currently on file with the following amended claim 1.

- B1
1. (Amended) An extrudable fragmented biocompatible hydrogel which is substantially free from an aqueous phase, said hydrogel being present in an applicator having an extrusion orifice, wherein the hydrogel has been fragmented by mechanical disruption.

REMARKS

Claim 1 was examined and is the only claim pending in the present application. Claim 1 was rejected as being anticipated by and/or obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,023,082. Claim 1 was further rejected for double patenting over commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,066,325. The rejection over the '082 patent is traversed in part and overcome in part. The rejection for double